

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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TO AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
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UNCLAS SAN JOSE 2576

LIMA FOR MARY HOYT, MRS. CARTER PARTY

USIA, IBS/PL, IPS/PL, ILA FOR G. MILLER

STATE FOR ARA, A

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, ROSALYNN)
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACT MRS. CARTER VISIT

HEREWITH JUNE 3RD EDITORIAL IN PRO GOVERNMENT EXCELSIOR.

A SYMBOLIC MOMENT IN MRS. CARTER'S VISIT

THERE WAS NO NEED TO BE NEAR HER; JUST TO WATCH HER ON TV WAS
ENOUGH TO NOTE THAT WE WERE VISITED BY AN EXTRAORDINARY WOMAN.
A WOMAN WHOSE EXCEPTIONALITY RESIDES PRECISELY -- AS THE WRITER
JOSE MARIN CANAS SAYS IN THIS SAME PAGE -- IN HER SIMPLICITY.

SHE IS A HOUSEWIFE, MODEST, GRACEFUL, SWEETLY ELEGANT, ALWAYS
SMILING, AN EXACT AND STRICT REPRESENTATION OF THE MOST VALUED
FEMININE VIRTUES: NOT ONLY THOSE RECOMMENDED AND PRAISED BY
OUR ANCESTORS, BUT ALSO THOSE THAT TODAY'S WORLD APPRECIATES AND
ESTEEMS, AS WOMEN BECOME ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN LIFE, NOT ONLY
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IN THEIR HOMES BUT ALSO IN THEIR COMMUNITIES, THEIR COUNTRIES,
THE WORLD.

AN INTERESTING FEATURE OF MRS. CARTER'S VISIT IS THAT TO DATE,
IT HAS NOT RECEIVED ITS AUTHENTIC MEANING, OR SYMBOLISM, IF
YOU LIKE.

IT HAS BEEN SAID IN EVERY POSSIBLE WAY WHY OUR COUNTRY WAS INCLUDED IN MRS. CARTER'S TRIP. WE UNDERSTAND: THE U.S. RESPECTS AND FEELS AFFECTION FOR OUR WAY OF LIVING, OUR DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM, OUR LOVE FOR LIBERTY, AND FOR EVERYTHING WE ARE.

BUT NOW THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS FIGHTING FOR THE OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS, IT WAS NOT ENOUGH THAT HIS WIFE JUST VISITED COSTA RICA, WHAT WAS INTENDED WAS TO GIVE SPECIAL EMPHASIS TO AN ATTITUDE, A THOUGHT, AN IDEAL.

AND THIS WAS OBVIOUS WHEN A VISIT TO THE SUPREME ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL WAS INCLUDED IN HER COSTA RICAN SCHEDULE.

IT WAS NOT A PROTOCOL VISIT. PROTOCOL DOES NOT REQUIRE IT. WITHIN HER 24 HOUR PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES THIS WAS ALMOST UNEXPECTED. BUT MRS. CARTER WANTED TO VISIT THE SUPREME ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL, THAT IS, THE ORGANISM WHICH EMBODIES OUR POLITICAL WILL, OUR ELECTORAL PLURALITY, OUR LIBERTIES, THAT ORGANISM THAT SYMBOLIZES ALL THAT COSTA RICA IS AND CLAIMS TO BE. A VISIT TO THE SUPREME ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL WAS THE MOST SYMBOLIC AND SIGNIFICANT ACT, THE ONE THAT HONORS COSTA RICA THE MOST, OF ALL OF THOSE SHE COULD HAVE ACCOMPLISHED DURING HER VISIT.

THERE WAS NO BETTER WAY TO LEAVE A VIVID IMPRESSION OF THE CONCERNS OF HER HUSBAND'S GOVERNMENT, WHAT HE EXPECTS, AND WHAT HE DESIRES FOR MEN AND COUNTRIES. OUR ELECTORAL SYSTEM IS WHAT WE ARE MOST PROUD OF, AND WHAT LEGALLY INCARNATES OUR EXISTENCE AS A DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY.

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MRS. CARTER WANTED TO SEE THE INSTITUTION WHICH OVERSEES OUR ELECTIONS. IT MUST HAVE BEEN FOR SOME REASON. MURCHIE

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